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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/041898

Confirmation No.: 4305

Applicant

Douglas A. Luchmann et al.

Filed

01/07/2002

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Examiner

DRODGE, Joseph W

Docket No.

S0002-US02

Customer No.

24994

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO 1ST OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 8, 2003, please amend the claims as follows and consider the following Remarks. A Request for Extension of Time and Fee for three months are submitted herewith.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.